

**MEETING SUMMARY, FORMER NANSEMOND ORDNANCE DEPOT (FNOD)
RESTORATION ADVISORY BOARD (RAB)**

To: RAB Members, Interested Parties
From: Adriane James, U.S. Army Corps Project Manager and RAB Co-Chair
Sandra Chaloux, CEC, Inc., RAB Facilitator
Re: August 7, 2003 RAB Meeting Summary

RAB Members Present: Fred Copeland Russ Dudley Tim Fink Adriane James Bruce Johnson Debbie Miller Thomas O’Grady Rob Thomson Cherie Walton	Affiliation: GE VDOT TCC USACE, Project Manager, Gov’t. Co-Chair Respass Beach VDEQ City of Suffolk EPA Reactivities Management Corporation
RAB Facilitator Present: Sandra Chaloux	CEC, Inc.
RAB Members Absent: Jim Bennett Marian “Bea” Rogers David Saunders Carl Serrette	Dominion Lands Community Co-Chair Bennett’s Creek Burbage Grant

7:05 p.m. **Introduction and Welcome/Call to Order**

(Sandra Chaloux – CEC, Inc.)

The meeting was called to order. RAB members and guests introduced themselves. Sandra reviewed the meeting agenda. No corrections were noted on the meeting summary from the last meeting.

7:10 p.m. **RAB Business**

Sandra asked RAB members to give comments on cleanup priorities at FNOD to the Project Delivery Team.

Bruce Johnson asked if the Corps’s OE contractors had finished blasting (OE detonations) at TCC. Bruce said community members have commented to him about the detonations. He recommended that the Corps set aside a time for the detonations and to notify the nearby community when detonations will occur. He said recent detonations sounded like “we were under attack”. The Corps’ OE contractor said the detonations that they heard probably occurred when they were clearing the items found in Pit 18 in the TNT area. He said there was one rare week when they were doing detonations all day long to get rid of the items found in Pit 18. The OE contractor said that there wouldn’t be anymore detonations of that caliber again unless they found another pit like Pit 18. Normally they detonate 2-3 items between 3 p.m. and 4 p.m. in the afternoon. Tim Fink said that TCC usually received notice about 30 minutes before a detonation. OE work has been completed in the TNT area but the Corps is still performing OE clearance activities in the Main Burning Ground on GE property. Adriane recommended that we include information in the next newsletter about the normal OE detonation time. Bruce agreed with the suggestion. Cheryl also recommended that RAB members or other members of

the community can contact Adriane if they want to verify whether planned detonations were taking place.

Tom O'Grady said that the City would like to see the Corps focus cleanup efforts on the developable areas of the site particularly along Harbour View Boulevard, the 57-acre triangle area on TCC property, and property along I-664 and College Drive. Tom also provided an update on new developments in the area. He said ground has been broken for Bridgeway Tech Center II. This will be a 67,000 square-foot single story office building that mirrors the existing Bridgeway Tech Center I office building. He said the City is reviewing a site plan for another 50,000 square-foot office building nearby that should break ground around August 18. He went on to say that the City is working with TCC to purchase the triangle area and the City is putting together a development plan for that area. He said the City hoped to complete the transaction by the end of the year.

Tim Fink referred to Pat Genzler to comment on TCC's priorities. Pat said that the Virginia Community College System had given the Corps a letter that summarizes TCC's comments on priorities for the cleanup effort. He said their biggest concern is contaminated soil in the TNT area. Pat said that since the TNT area is at the entrance to the community college campus, TCC officials would like the Corps' cleanup efforts to be as unobtrusive as possible. TCC does not want to see big fences and hazardous waste signs at the entrance to the college. He said they would also like to see the Pesticide Drum area resolved and the area around the TCC lake and the land abutting TCC lake and I-664 resolved as quickly as possible.

Fred Copeland said that GE wants to proceed with subdividing the GE property that is clear of OE and Hazardous Waste problems from the property that still requires restoration efforts. GE wants to sell their property this quarter if possible and begun a boundary survey that day.

Cherie Walton said that she thinks that the priority should be to address the sites that could impact human health, safety, and the environment. Cherie said that she thinks the Corps is doing pretty well to address these things such as the OE work and groundwater work. Cherie suggested that it would be good if the RAB could see work plans or summaries of work plans before work proceeds at FNOD because the board could offer some neat ideas to help the process.

7:30 p.m.

Corps Update (*Adriane James, Cheryl Fromme, Rick Aiken*)

Adriane provided handouts of the Corps Update presentation to the RAB. She asked the RAB members to let the Corps know if there are any terms being used that the members don't understand. She said that she wants to be sure that the RAB participates fully and understands what the Corps is doing at the site.

Budget Update

(*Adriane James, USACE Project Manager*)

Adriane showed the 2003 and 2004 budgets for FNOD. The Corps received \$4.5 million for FNOD in 2003. Approximately \$2.8 million was spent on OE removal efforts and approximately \$1.6 million was spent on Hazardous Waste investigation efforts. Adriane said she expects to receive \$500,000 less in funding for FNOD in 2004. Approximately \$2.5 million will be spent on OE work and \$1.5 million will be spent on Hazardous Waste work. Tim Fink asked if there was enough funding to allow the OE work to continue if there is a Continuing Resolution. The OE contractor said that they planned for a Continuing Resolution and should be in good shape.

Chemical Warfare Material (CWM) Testing Update

(Rob Thomson -EPA)

Not many labs can do chemical warfare testing analysis. Tech Law, EPA's contractor, collected surface soil samples from the Main Burning Ground, the Horseshoe Pond area, and J Lake. They tested for Nerve agents and mustard gas constituents. No CWM or CWM degradates were observed during field screening efforts. For some reason, the lab was unable to detect VX in the spiked/Matrix soil sample from the site but could detect VX in sand that was spiked with VX. Rob said the soil samples must have absorbed the VX that was added and that is why the lab couldn't detect it. Rob said that EPA is assuming that there is no problem with CWM for the areas tested. Tim Fink asked if EPA would be retesting for VX. Rob said that no additional testing is planned since the field testing showed no signs of the CWM or degradates. Rick reiterated that they were not expecting to find it at the site but since the paper trail for Nansemond was not very tight, the project team wanted to be sure. There was no documentation to suggest that there were ever any nerve agents or CWMs stored there. He said the Corps believes that this effort helps to close the loop on this issue. The Corps will document EPA's findings and will update the Archive Search Report accordingly. Tim Fink recommended that this news be included as an update in the next newsletter. Rob circulated a copy of EPA's report on the testing.

HTRW Cleanup Update

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

TNT Area Sampling

There is a new development in the TNT area since the last RAB meeting. The property owners have been notified. Following the bulk TNT removal efforts in the TNT area, the Corps sampled the stockpiled soil and the wooden trough, both of which had been removed from the pit. One of the tests conducted is called a TCLP (Toxicity Characterization Leachate Procedure) test. This test is designed to determine whether a waste is characterized as a solid waste or a hazardous waste and to determine if contaminants that may be present have the ability to leach or migrate into the groundwater if placed in a sanitary landfill. The TCLP test includes analysis for metals, explosives, and semi-volatile organic compounds, as well as corrosivity, ignitability and reactivity. The wood from the trough failed TCLP for several constituents and therefore must be disposed of as a hazardous waste. The Corps will be hauling it off to a certified hazardous waste incinerator in Illinois next week to dispose of it.

The Corps also tested the soil removed from the pit. In order to collect a representative sample, approximately 20 soil samples from the stockpiled soil was collected to create one composite sample to be tested. While waiting on the analytical results, the Corps placed a liner (minimum 6 mil) in the pit, placed the soil back in the hole and covered it with the liner. The soil sample failed the TCLP test for lead. Now that this material is classified as a hazardous waste, Debbie Miller (VDEQ) said that the Corps must prevent anyone from coming into contact with the soil until the Corps can complete the full Remedial Investigation/Feasibility Study (RI/FS) of the site and can develop an appropriate cleanup strategy. Rob Thomson (EPA) is concerned about the inhalation exposure pathway at the site since dust kicked up in the TNT Area may reach those individuals in the vicinity of the soccer field. The affected area is approximately 2 acres in size. A RAB member asked what concentration of lead was found in the soil. The regulatory standard set for lead is 5 ppm for the TCLP test. Cheryl said that the sample had a concentration of 45.2 ppm for lead. The soil sample also had high levels of TNT. The RI/FS will evaluate a number of soil and groundwater cleanup alternatives and recommend the most appropriate strategy for the site. Cheryl said that this study may take a few years to complete, so the Corps is recommending placing a geofabric material and a layer of clean soil on top of the TNT Area as interim measure to prevent anyone from coming in contact with the soil until the cleanup is complete. EPA recommended that the Corps contact TCC and the Soccer League about the situation and to put signs up as an additional safety measure. The Corps has complied

with EPA's request. Bruce asked if the Corps has been able to determine the boundary of the contaminated soil. Cheryl said that the Corps will be doing that during the Remedial Investigation study to determine the nature and extent of the contaminated soil. Due to the activities that have occurred in the TNT Area over the years (numerous excavations), Cheryl suspects that the soils adjacent to the small pit where the samples were collected are contaminated at similar levels. Cheryl showed a map of the TNT area and the two locations that the Corps will investigate. Pat Genzler said that TCC is not happy about signs being put up near the entrance of the campus. Rick said that the Corps can work with the college on the sign so that it informs but does not alarm. Debbie Miller (VDEQ) said that the Corps must warn the public that a hazardous waste exists there. She said to do less would open up liability to TCC. Rick said that if things go well, the cover should be in place in 60-90 days.

Conceptual Sitewide Groundwater Model

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

Cheryl said the Corps is awarding a modification to the contractor to complete this model.

Offshore Area Study

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

EPA's toxicologist reviewed the Corps' Human Health Risk Assessment and asked the Corps to complete a few more tests. SAIC has completed those tests and is in the process of revising the Human Health Risk Assessment. The new draft will be submitted to EPA & VDEQ next week for review. Once EPA's toxicologist agrees with the new draft of the Human Health Risk Assessment, the Corps will proceed with preparing a Proposed Plan for the site. Cheryl said that the Corps is hoping to complete the public notice in September in a local newspaper and hold a public meeting in conjunction with the October RAB as well as begin the public comment period for the Proposed Plan on October 2, 2003. (**Note:** Since the RAB meeting, EPA has requested more time to review the new Human Health Risk Assessment. Therefore the public meeting and public comment period have postponed.) Rick said that the Corps does not see any risk and is anticipating no further action offshore.

GE Pond

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

The Corps has completed collecting 2 surface water and 2 sediment samples in the pond and 3 samples from an adjacent swale as a part of the site screening process to determine if any more work is required at this site. Once the analytical data is received, the data will be sent to an independent data validator for review. The Corps will be conducting a human health and ecological risk screening in support of the Site Screening Report to determine if other work is needed. Cheryl reminded the RAB that the Site Screening process was developed with the regulators to evaluate other Areas of Concern that were not identified in the NPL listing process to determine if further action is required. The site screening process includes ecological and human health screening criteria that the project team uses to compare with analytical data.

Upcoming Work Update

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

Cheryl said the Corps is going to be conducting soil and groundwater investigations at the Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) area (near the NRB) and at the Nansemond River Beachfront, and a soils investigation in the North Athletic Field. The Corps is preparing a work plan for the three sites. The Corps will be collecting some groundwater samples for Arsenic and metals near the Horseshoe Pond on GE property due to some concerns expressed by EPA's Hydrogeologist. The Corps is also working on a contract to complete the RI/FS study for the TNT area.

Track K/Tire Pile & Pesticide Drum Area
(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

The Corps is trying to establish a contract for an investigation of the Pesticide Drum area and the Tire Pile area. The cost to complete work at both sites is much higher than the Corps anticipated due to the Dieldrin and Dioxins that are present in the soil. Pat asked if there is Dioxin in the pesticide drum area. Cheryl said both Dioxin and Dieldrin were found there. The Pesticide Drum area is located in the Triangle area on TCC property. Cheryl said that VDEQ has the lead on the Pesticide drum issue. Cheryl said once the removal is completed, the closeout can occur very quickly. Cheryl is recommending addressing the Pesticide Drum area first so that development can proceed. This would involve removal of the soil, confirmation soil sampling and analysis following the removal, and closeout efforts with the State. Cheryl said that the Corps is considering taking more samples in the Track K/Tire Pile area and a risk assessment of the site. There is a chance that the risk assessment will lead to no removal action at the Track K site at all.

8:22 p.m.

Ordnance & Explosives Update
(Rick Aiken – USACE Contractor)

TNT Area Pit 18 – Rick said that the field crew completed OE work in the TNT Area on July 9. Rick showed some photos of the field crew and the OE items that were found. Almost 500 pounds of TNT were removed from the site this year.

GE Main Burning Ground –Rick showed the OE Grid plan illustrating where OE has been found and which grids have been completed. There are approximately 51 investigation grids left to clear. He estimate that there is about 2 years of OE work left at this site.

Nansemond River beachfront(NRB) – A 6-inch shrapnel round was found on the NRB at end of June. The Corps is working on a strategy to investigate this area further to determine if other OE items exist there.

The OE field crew has been losing about 2 hours of work a day due to rain and lightening. In addition to the work at GE, the Corps needs to investigate 2 anomalies at the Horseshoe Pond, the NRB, and the Track A & B Burning Ground, and some areas around J Lake.

Human Remains Reburial
(Adriane James –USACE)

The reburial ceremony for the human remains that were found at the James River beachfront was held on June 21, 2003 at 11 a.m. at First Baptist Church on Mahan Street in downtown Suffolk. The gravesite service was held immediately following the service at First Baptist Church in Chuckatuck (Suffolk) at the Oakland Cemetery operated by Little Bethel Baptist Church. Adriane said that the Corps received a great deal of support from the community and the media on this effort. She handed out copies of the news stories that ran about the event. Adriane showed a video of one of the news stories that ran on Channel 3 about the reburial. She said that it was a very successful event.

Land Use Controls
(Rick Aiken –J.M. Waller & Associates)

Rick said that a developer has presented a proposed development plan to the Corps that included some residential on the property that has been referred to as DLI-2 where the Corps completed OE removal efforts. Rick said that the Corps would not support residential development in this area. Tom O’Grady asked about monitoring wells on the property where Bridgeway Tech Center II is going to be built. Cheryl said that Dominion Lands should work with the State to properly close any wells that they may have installed on the property before. The Draft Memorandum of Agreement for the Land Use Control Plan went to the city for

review 2 weeks ago. The Corps is waiting on comments from the City before they finalize the agreement.

Glossary of Terms

(Cheryl Fromme – USACE)

The Corps is working on a glossary of terms to help the RAB understand some of the terminology that is used. Adriane recommended that CEC prepare binders for the RAB members so that will include the Glossary of Terms.

Adriane mentioned that the Corps, Norfolk District has had a change of command. The new commander has expressed an interest in possibly attending the October RAB meeting.

8: 45 p.m.

Regulatory Update

Rob mentioned that ATSDR (Agency for Toxic Substance Disease Registry) was back out on the site again in June. They will be issuing their revised Public Health Assessment of FNOD before the October RAB meeting. Rob wasn't sure how the report will be released. To help the RAB be more involved, Rob recommended that the Corps prepare an executive summary of work plans for the RAB members. He suggested that the executive summaries be mailed out to the RAB a week before the RAB meetings.

9:00 p.m.

Public Comment Period / Q&A

None.

9:05 p.m.

Establish Action Items/Set Agenda and Date for Next RAB Meeting

The next RAB meeting was set for October 2, 2003. The meeting will be held at the Bon Secours Health Center at Harbour View at 7:00 p.m. The meeting room is on the second floor.

Agenda items for the next RAB meeting:

- GE Pond
- Groundwater modeling update
- Risk assessment
- ATSDR update
- Pesticide Drum Area- Cost/Cleanup
- Corps Proposed Priorities for 2004

Action items:

- CEC to prepare RAB binders
- Cheryl to finalize Glossary of Terms

9:35 p.m.

Meeting Adjourned

Others Present: Rick Aiken Pat Genzler Joe Ferris Branch Lawson Cheryl Fromme Diana Bailey Gerald Rogers Harry Wheeler, Jr. Cliff Walden	Affiliation: J.M. Waller & Associates VCCS-TCC AH Environmental East West Partners USACE-Norfolk District USACE – Norfolk District PAO USACE- Norfolk District PAO SAIC Zapata Engineering
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